

WAREHOUSE AND SHOPS WRECKED

MANY BUILDINGS SHAKEN BY BLASTS

Occupants Alarmed by Crash of Successive Explosions. SHOWERED WITH DEBRIS. Embers and Bits of Timber Blown Across City Hall Park.

The tall towers of lower Manhattan trembled under the concussion of the warehouse explosion in Jersey City yesterday afternoon. A series of windows overlooking the Hudson, particularly those directly opposite the scene of the blast, rattled as if about to collapse. Thousands rushed to the windows, threw them up and gazed on a column of whitish smoke rising skyward like the charge from a giant mortar.

In less than two minutes after the fourth or last of the explosions heard and felt on this side of the Hudson, blazing messengers from the fire were seen, borne by a forty-two mile gale from the northwest, setting the smoke cloud that crowned the river.

Embers, splinters and bits of timber more than two feet long descended in showers on some of the big buildings, including the Woolworth Building, and even invaded a few of the open windows. Brands fell in City Hall Park and near the entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge, and some of the debris was blown up on the promenade of the bridge.

General General Noises.

The Bolivian Consul-General, Adolfo Bellan, whose office is on the fourth floor of the Woolworth Building, happened to be looking across the Hudson when the volcanic suggestive eruption arose before him. He was startled, he said he thought the windows were about to be shattered. The vibration of the building that accompanied the upheaval turned the Consul-General's thoughts to the earthquake which he had felt in Lima, and he was horrified to find that he was in the same position.

"This is nothing to what is going on over there. Perhaps such things as this will inspire the authorities to stop the storage of explosives in thickly settled districts."

The Consul-General's friend called attention a few minutes later to a blast on the Manhattan side of the river at the foot of Chambers street and remarked that it was caused by a brand from the Jersey City blast. This was confirmed subsequently.

James H. Scott, chief meteorologist hereabout, following an explosion from his perch, the tower of the City Hall, said that the blast was a "barometer" and having been a newspaper man automatically recorded his impressions. He said the buildings were shaken perceptibly by the explosion, but no glass was broken. He noted five explosions, one of which was very heavy, and all seemed to be varying degrees of distance from the "barometer" or barometer.

A "barometer" of the explosion was about up, perhaps, 100 feet, with the most violent of the explosion. Meteorologist Scott said he also saw that several buildings were shaken, and that the Jersey City ferry slips by the smoke plume. The wind force, from the northwest, or nearly at right angles with the river, was estimated by the official anemometer, but away up in the air it might have been much more than that; anyhow, the smoke cloud was unusually swift, time consuming the Hudson. The fire was almost a direct line with City Hall Park as measured by the course of the wind, and that is why the buildings intervening got a shower of brands and splinters.

The force of the explosion was registered in many broken windows in downtown Manhattan, especially along the water front and in the tall office buildings. In less than ten minutes after the blast office buildings slightly vibrated under the shock of the several blasts. Two companies of Coast Guard sailors, equipped as the bluejackets of the navy, were detached by their division commander, Capt. Godfrey L. Carden, to Jersey City. The jurisdiction of having sent them did not extend inland beyond the pierheads of the harbor, but he swiftly decided that Jersey City in the event of a real disaster might need them. They were always armed and ready for hazardous duty, and the two officers in command of the two companies, Lieut. Chalk and Stika, were instructed to confer with the authorities of Jersey City and put themselves at their disposal.

They hustled aboard the cutter Hudson, and landed at Jersey City in less than half an hour. The mayor and the chief of police welcomed them and they were put on guard duty instantly.

OUT OF TOWN CROOKS IN JAIL.

Highwaymen Receive Long Sentences for Holdups.

Four out of town highwaymen who came to New York, apparently assuming that this was virgin ground for their exploits, realized the error of their ways yesterday when they were sentenced to Sing Sing prison in Judge Roskelly's part of the Court of General Sessions. Adolph Gieseler, 29, of Pittsburgh, received a fifteen year sentence. With Alexander Parise, 19, of Jersey City, he was convicted of breaking into the apartment of Mrs. K. Kwaetz of 8 Haight street in January, assaulting her and then stealing \$150. The other men were Joseph Priest and Edward Stuber, both of Cleveland. They were convicted of having assaulted Fred C. Wessell of Brooklyn on Fourth avenue, near Twenty-third street, and after beating him with a blackjack taking from him a money bag containing \$100. In the Post Graduate Hospital, where he was taken suffering from a fractured skull.

FATHER LOSES WILL FIGHT.

Uncle and Aunt to Get W. Purdy Shannon's \$225,000.

Surrogate Strong in Riverhead, L. I., yesterday held that Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Purdy of Manhattan, summer residents of Babylon, did not exert undue influence over W. Purdy Shannon, their nephew, in making his will, in which he left the bulk of his \$225,000 estate to his uncle and aunt.

Young Shannon died in October, 1916, from injuries he received during a hunting accident on Great South Bay. His will was made about eight years prior to his death. In his will Shannon did not mention his father, William P. Shannon of Ottawa. It was said the young man was dispossessed because his father married a second time. Shannon's father brought the contest.

EXPLOSION AND FIRE WRECK WAREHOUSE

Continued from First Page.

The building or employees, great stores of lubricating oils, kerosene, tobacco, flour, malt grains and a thousand and one other substances that might be stored in a general warehouse for listed merchandise.

It was said by a high police official in Jersey City late last night that an arsonist probably would be made. No person was named, but the fire shop or in the Jarvis warehouse had been reported up to midnight as being missing. The police were looking for Edward J. Altman, neighbor of Shiel, C. whom they would like to question.

Robert M. Jarvis, Jr. told the investigators that if there were any explosions within the warehouse they came from an external cause. He believed that the fire, if it came first, was incendiary, and if explosions came first they were the work of an alien plotter. He had, however, no evidence to support this theory, but the thoroughness with which the investigators pursued this line of examination indicated that they thought Mr. Jarvis might be right.

The main warehouse covered most of a whole block bounded by Twelfth and Thirteenth and Prevost and Barnum streets. Most of the streets in that region are merely on the city map, however. In reality the warehouse was set in a triangle formed by the Lackawanna tracks to the north and the Erie shops and main line to the south.

Three smaller buildings, including a stable and a corrugated iron shack known as shed C, where the weighing was done, were also part of the warehouse and the group of buildings made a pretty compact whole.

Started in Weighing Shed.

The fire apparently started in shed C. There were stored four carloads of bicarbonate of soda—according to a workman, Patrick Curley, questioned by Detective John Deegan of the Jersey City police and the army intelligence bureau. He said there were also in shed C fifteen or twenty barrels of peroxide of hydrogen and fifteen drums of chloride of lime.

After pulling the bags of potash from a rear wall of the shed to the scales. Back of the pile of bags flames appeared. Curley shouted "Fire!" and a crowd of men gathered around the building.

Two negroes were on the roof of the main building, which was six stories high, of red brick with wooden interior walls. One of them slid down a rope, the other stood head first down a grain chute and hit the pavement without hurting it or himself.

Explosion Follows Fire.

About three minutes after the first explosion, which was heard as a distant boom, a second explosion came. It was apparently in shed C, it sent that and the other smaller structures flying. At intervals of about a minute thereafter four more explosions followed. They simply knocked the old brick warehouse to pieces. It went flying and every which way. The debris was scattered all about the ruins, but pieces of the roof, blasting tarred paper, chunks of brick and twisted pieces of iron pipe soared the air. The debris fell about the ruins, but pieces of the roof, blasting tarred paper, chunks of brick and twisted pieces of iron pipe soared the air. The debris fell about the ruins, but pieces of the roof, blasting tarred paper, chunks of brick and twisted pieces of iron pipe soared the air.

What windows in the vicinity were not smashed by the concussion of the first explosion were blown in by its second. The very pane in a monster modern building, the Union Terminal Cold Storage Warehouse, across Prevost street from the Jarvis plant, was broken. It and down broke street and in all the other tracks within a mile of the site the glass broke and the bill will be tremendous.

Tenements Saved by Wind.

Fortunately the wind blew away from the tenements of the Hudson section, and they were imperiled only by the shock of the detonations. The Union Terminal Cold Storage Warehouse was based on its eastern front by the heat of the fire across Prevost street, but at 165 degrees Fahrenheit its automatic sprinkler system started a deluge which, with the cold down from the sky, kept the fire from spreading. The great building in which thousands of dollars worth of eatables are housed.

Men who were rolling hand trucks loaded with boxes of canned goods on the premises could have escaped, but they were hurled against the sides of the building by the shock of the blast. Daniel H. Haskins, a fireman, was hit by something he doesn't know what—and when he came to his scalp had to be stitched by an ambulance surgeon. The warehouse of the National Caramel Candy Company also had a narrow squeak.

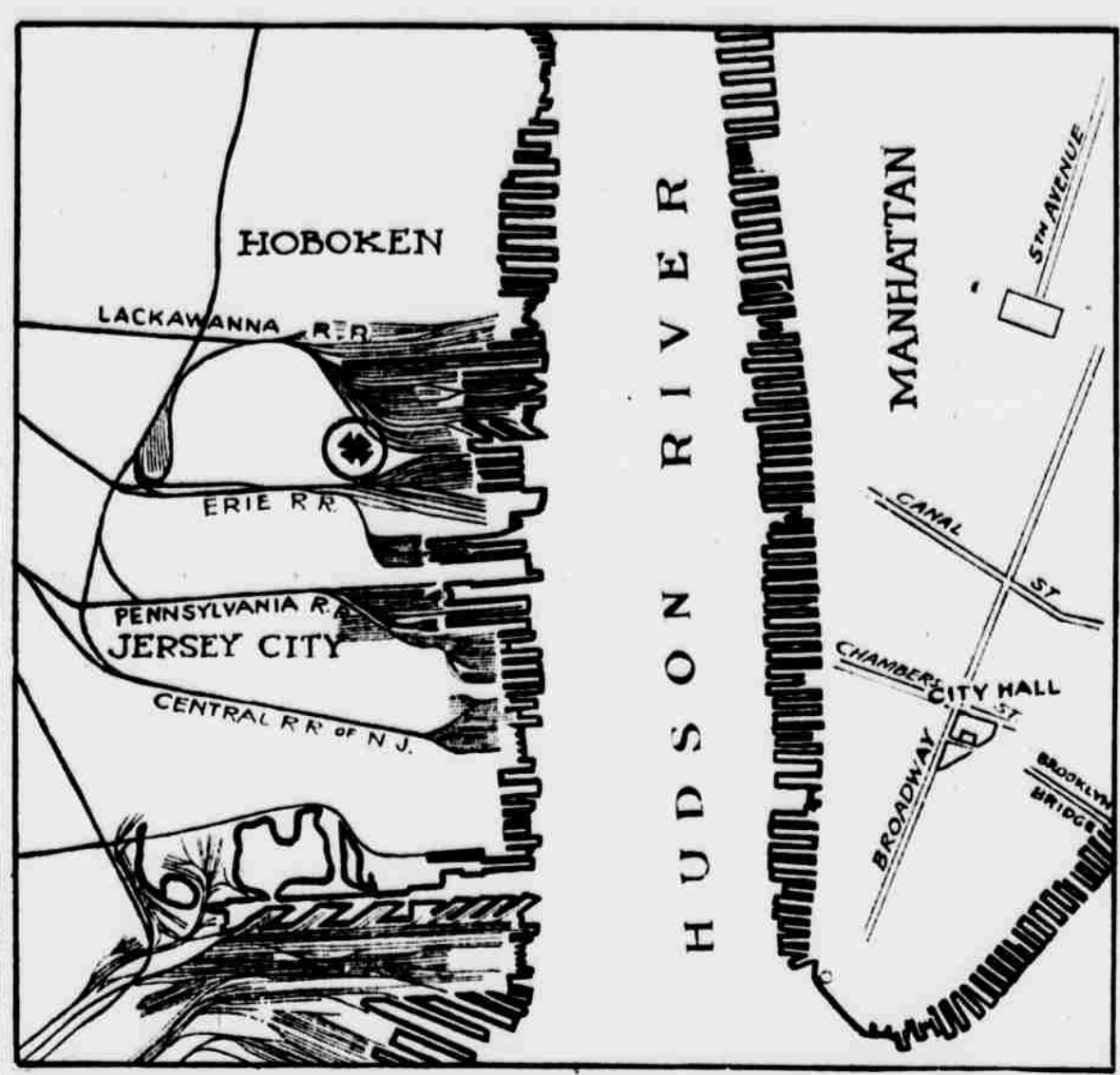
Uniformed soldiers and sailors took possession of the district a few minutes after the fire broke out. They were ordered to keep the area clear of persons and to prevent anyone from getting their fingers burned in the heated area and from what seemed to be real danger in case any more explosions might make a habit of being stored in the vicinity. But Government officers said last night that none of the buildings or piers of the port of embarkation were damaged.

None Missing.

So swiftly did the explosion in the Jarvis plant follow the sudden outbreak of flame that it seemed incredible for the moment that all of the fifty men working on the premises could have escaped. Heads were counted last night, however, by the superintendent, W. E. Wilson, and his assistants and they reported everybody accounted for.

Apparently every one got out of the destroyed buildings, including a small frame one on Twelfth street used as a storehouse by a soap company, the walls of which are now bulging and

Where Shock of Explosion Was Felt in Lower Manhattan.



A section of Manhattan which chiefly saw and felt the effects of yesterday's explosion in Jersey City. The force of the explosion broke windows as far to the north as the lower section of the city of New York.

broken so that their best further use is for kindling wood.

Fire Chief Roger Boyle, mustering a host of engines on three alarms, sent a truthful report of the first explosion, which seemed to be a small one, but which occurred at 2:03 P. M. for the hands stopped at that moment.

The firemen were snapping the hooks into the harnesses of their horses, the alarm having come in, when Jersey City was rocked by explosion No. 1. Then on the way to the fire the horses ran away for a spell and nearly buried into Chief Boyle's shoulders in the city men were ruled out of barrier chains.

Opinion Divided.

In Jersey City and Hoboken immediate opinion was divided as to whether it was another Black Tom or whether one of the internal German machines—Zepplins or a twenty-four mile gun—was pounding the river towns. The almost instant appearance of the black smoke which billowed on the sun speedily cleared everybody's mind as to what was going on.

In the investigation it was suggested by the questioners that some German machine might be working in collusion with a warehouse employee. Inquiries were made in all places where the workmen gather without result. A report that a Black Tom discharged an employee made threats was treated lightly by the Jarvis brothers.

The investigators were puzzled by the information given them that there was a small explosion in the warehouse, which was not a Black Tom, but a Zepplin or a twenty-four mile gun. The information given them that there was a small explosion in the warehouse, which was not a Black Tom, but a Zepplin or a twenty-four mile gun.

Pillar of Fire Seen.

It was pointed out that lubricating oil could hardly be touched off in so vicious a manner as to break windows a mile away. An eyewitness testified that a pillar of fire later in the night, which was the nearest approach to a reasonable solution that has been reached.

The good old theory of spontaneous combustion was freely aired, but it was discouraged by the experts. Of course all the employees denied that they had been smoking. In their uncertainty as to whether the potash in shed C was chlorate of potash or not, they were unable to say.

Robert Jarvis said positively that there was no gasoline or kerosene in the building. He said that two carloads of salmon and other food were in storage for the army commissary department. He said the building was insured, but he did not know about the contents. He said the building was insured, but he did not know about the contents.

Warehouse Very Old.

Most of the people who live or work in the neighborhood scouted this view, however. They said the building was old and that the workmen were forever repairing it and contained an accumulation of dust which might easily catch fire from a match or a cigarette. The Jarvis employees were rounded up and questioned. They said they hadn't heard any "pro-German" talk within their circle, had seen no strangers and had no special precautions against enemy aliens were exercised, as none seemed to be necessary.

For a time Robert M. Jarvis, Jr. proposed that the building be searched from the warehouse, when the bombardment started, and apparently had run almost all of the two miles to his uncle's abode. The big bands drew most of the city and they also took to the scene. Passing through streets where every window was broken and women were crying that 200 men had been killed and people were running about with blood trickling from their faces, the official party was relieved when it found that the casualties were comparatively slight.

Major Frank Hague was there. He was one of those who couldn't imagine a lot of explosions in a warehouse without something to explode, and he and the Director of Safety Charles E. O'Brien, Prosecutor of the Peace Pierre P. Donovan and others set out to ascertain the truth.

The two Jarvisses and others of the warehouse were questioned for a long

time by the various inquiring agents. No arrests were reported.

If the clock in the fire house of Engine Company 6, in Henderson street, is truthful, the first explosion, which seemed to be a small one, but which occurred at 2:03 P. M. for the hands stopped at that moment.

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DR. MUCK QUIZZED, THEN SENT TO JAIL

No Decision in His Case Reached, Despite Long Examination.

CHARGES KEPT SECRET

Will Be Held as Prisoner Until Second Grilling, Due in Day or Two.

Boston, March 26.—Dr. Karl Muck, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, who was taken into custody last night as an enemy alien, was lodged tonight in a cell in the East Cambridge jail after he had been questioned at length by officials of the Department of Justice.

It was announced that no decision as to the final disposition of the case was reached and that Dr. Muck would be examined again within a few days. The officials continued to maintain silence as to the specific reasons for his detention.

For six hours the orchestra conductor was the centre of interest at the Federal Building. From mid-afternoon, when he was brought from the Back Bay police station, where he passed the night, until late in the afternoon, when he was taken to jail, hundreds of persons, including many women, gathered outside the building, hoping to catch a glimpse of the distinguished prisoner.

It was not deemed necessary to keep Dr. Muck in the prisoner's cage in the Marshall's office prior to the examination, although when he first arrived the iron door of the cage clanked behind him. It was opened after a short time, however, and he was allowed to pace about the detention room. While apparently calm and nonchalant, the prisoner betrayed a certain nervousness. In less than three hours he smoked several packages of cigarettes.

"This is the biggest predicament I have ever been in," Dr. Muck was heard to say when asked by newspaper photographers to pose for a picture. "I am not inclined to pose for anything."

Assistant District Attorney Dewey gave orders that Dr. Muck was to see no one, but an exception was made in the case of Charles A. Ellis, manager of the orchestra, and Mrs. Muck. Husband and wife were allowed to see Dr. Muck occasionally and chatted together briefly. Mrs. Muck impressed those who saw her as a confident her husband would soon be released and that he would be able to continue his work.

After the examination of the musician was completed, Federal agents said he had been informed that he would remain in custody "indefinitely."

Letters and other papers seized at Dr. Muck's apartments during the raid were being examined by the Department of Justice officials.

A representative of Major Henry L. Hagan, the founder and patron of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, who defended its conductor in the attacks against his alleged pro-Germanism, tried unsuccessfully to have him admitted to bail.

The conductor, considered to be his master effort in America, the production of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, in the absence of Dr. Muck, the opening performance of the season was postponed. The orchestra was conducted by Ernest Schindler, assistant conductor. During his automobile ride to the jail Dr. Muck several times remarked that he deeply regretted his inability to take part in the concert.

MUCK DECISION TO-DAY.

Washington Denies Ordering Arrest of Conductor.

Special Dispatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, March 26.—Decision as to the fate of Dr. Karl Muck, Boston Symphony Orchestra leader, who was arrested in Boston yesterday morning, will be determined by the Department of Justice to-morrow.

A report of the arrest and detention of Muck was received by the Department of Justice to-day. John Lord O'Brien, special assistant to the Attorney-General, to whom the papers were referred, said to-day he had had no opportunity to examine them.

The arrest of Dr. Muck was made by agents of the Department on their own initiative and without instructions from Washington. Federal agents, however, the matter squarely up to officials here, and a decision will be made as soon as possible.

It was officially stated at the Department of Justice to-day that Dr. Muck's claim of Swiss citizenship will not of itself prevent his detention as an alien enemy. He is admitted to have been in Germany. The department has decided that Swiss or any other citizenship would not alter the case if the facts warranted the detention.

Decision of the citizenship point makes it plain that the Department already has given some consideration to Dr. Muck's case. Action was not recorded, however, until officials here had opportunity of weighing all facts that agents and the District Attorney at Boston have for presentation.

MUCK SWISS, SAYS ENVOY.

Minister Confirms Claim of Arrested Director.

Hans Solzer, Swiss Minister to the United States, who is visiting New York, declared to-day that the claim of Dr. Karl Muck that he is a naturalized citizen of Switzerland is correct. The Minister said that to the present no representations had been made to him by Dr. Muck in regard to his arrest in Boston, and that so far as he knew none had been sent to the legation at Washington.

The Minister added that unless Dr. Muck claimed the protection of the Swiss legation he would take no action, but that if he was asked to interfere he would proceed as in the case of any Swiss citizen.

Chicago's Cabarets Close May 1.

Chicago, March 26.—All cabarets in Chicago will be abolished after May 1. An ordinance passed by the City Council to-day prohibits any form of entertainment, dancing, skating or performance at any place where liquor is served. Orchestral music will be permitted by the payment of \$500 additional license fee. Mechanical pianos may be used without any special license.

Gen. Chikushi at West Point.

WEST POINT, N. Y., March 25.—Lieut. Gen. Chikushi and his staff, comprising the Japanese Military Mission, visited the Military Academy to-day. And in company with Col. Tillman, superintendent of the Academy, and his official staff reviewed the cadets. The visitors later returned to New York.

"LET GEORGE DO IT," OUR CHANT, SAYS T. R.

American Policy Explored by Col. Roosevelt.

The old expression, "Let George do it," is all the American people can chant while Haig and his army are enduring the furious onslaught of the Germans, in the opinion of Col. Theodore Roosevelt. After reading the accounts of the battle, the Colonel said:

"We have been at war nearly a year and all that we can do when the greatest battle of history is on and the English are fighting our battle as much as their own is for the President to send a message which in sum amounts to the hope that George will be able to do it himself. Let us with our people wait and read Gen. Wood's testimony to-day, and then understand what a dreadful misfortune it has been for the whole world to have had America for the last three and a half years carrying out the 'Let George do it' policy."

The Colonel is once again feeling better. His three weeks rest has restored him to his old vigor and he is ready to get into the game once more. To-day he leaves for Portland, Me., where he will make an address to-morrow night before the Republican State Central Committee of Maine. He promised his physicians that he would make no other address than the one scheduled and would see no delegations on his trip.

At the opening of his talk the Colonel who has seen service in all parts of the world, paid a wonderful tribute to a war all over the world. Wherever there's a German, that's where we're fighting this war. The Germans are fighting our battle as much as we are. You've heard of a great explosion, and there isn't any question about it, it's a great explosion.

\$1,193,125 FOR BRITISH WORK.

Red Cross War Council Makes Second Big Gift.

The war council of the American Red Cross announced an appropriation of \$1,193,125, or 250,000 pounds sterling, as an additional contribution to the British Red Cross.

The original contribution to the British Red Cross was \$1,000,000, made October 16, 1917. These contributions are to be expended for relief of sick and wounded in hospitals, clearing stations and on lines of communication. The British Red Cross, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, has been of the greatest service in adding American soldiers and sailors in time of disaster at the front, and in the recent sinking of the Tuscania, and in sickness and injury on land.

LESS PROFITEERING DEMANDED BY HAYS

G. O. P. Chairman Wants More Volunteering.

Chicago, March 26.—"Less profiteering, more volunteering and loyalty to the part of American labor" was urged by Will H. Hays, chairman of the Republican National Committee, in an address to-night before the Union League Club.

"The conflict has progressed to a point where the issue hangs in the balance, so that only by interference of the United States can the world purpose can the tide be turned and the world won for democracy," said Mr. Hays.

"There must be such industrial peace as will permit the production of arms and munitions, and every atom of brain will go to the fullest where needed for the common cause."

BURGULARS ROB SYNAGOGUE.

They Cut Away Plumbing and Break the Ark.

The burglars who have been having a fine time in Long Island City stripping the Beth Israel Synagogue on Sixth street near Vernon avenue yesterday of all portable metal in the building and broke the ark and other religious articles.

To make this job, their strength, a thorough one, they even cut away the plumbing fixtures and the pedestal of the synagogue clock.

'VERONICA'S VEIL,' PASSION PLAY, ENDS

46,125 Have Attended Hoboken Lenten Production.

At the end of a brilliant performance by the second cast, the curtain was drawn for the last time this season last night at the West Hoboken Auditorium in West Hoboken. Immediately afterward announcement was made by the executive committee that not only would the play be presented here during the Lenten season but the number of weekly performances would be increased to six.

Records, including last night's performance showed the season just ended has been by far the most successful of any experienced by the players since "Veronica's Veil" first was produced in the West Hoboken auditorium four years ago. During this season there was a total attendance of 46,125. For the last performance every seat in the auditorium had been sold two weeks ago.

Quackenbush on Inebriety Board.

John P. Quackenbush was appointed a member of the Board of Inebriety to-day. This completes a full board to take the place of those who resigned because Mayor Hylan insisted that they force the matter. He is a resident of the city and has been a member of the Board of Inebriety for several years.

Food Wins the War Your Garden May Help

IN BULK for all who will plant liberally this spring CABBAGE, ONION, PEAS, BEANS, CORN, ONION SETS.

Highest tests for purity and growth. Vaughan's Seed Book for 1918.

tells the whole story of the "Right" way to grow your garden. Vaughan's Seed Book for 1918. Vaughan's Seeds for more than 20 years. Seed for 1000 sets. Price 30c. 100c. 50c. 10c. 5c. 2c.